

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### LET US NOT SEND TROOPS TO KOSOVO

**HON. STEPHEN HORN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 11, 1999*

Mr. HORN. Mr. Chairman, earlier today I expressed my views on why the American military should not be sent to Kosovo.

The conflict in Kosovo is taking place within a sovereign nation. If we are going to go to war with a sovereign nation, we ought to provide a declaration of war. That is what the Constitution of the United States would have us do. I think all of us in this chamber know that Serbian leader Milosevic is a war criminal that should be tried by an international tribunal. The issue here today is, by what criteria should Congress and the President of the United States judge whether American troops should go there?

When is the success known by American troops sent to Kosovo? The President repeatedly broke promises regarding the length of service in Bosnia before admitting our troops will be there indefinitely. Are they going to spend 50 years in the Balkans around Kosovo to bring peace as we have in Korea? Korea was where another Nation invaded South Korea.

This is the time to ask the President to face up to the tough questions and give us the answers to the questions that have been submitted to him. I would keep American troops out of Kosovo. I am opposed to any bombing of civilians. Any targets should be military in nature.

The President has failed to explain the urgent national interest which requires the introduction of U.S. forces into Kosovo. He has failed to even attempt a full explanation of this policy to Congress. The Constitution has given Congress a clear role to play which the President has ignored.

The Administration argues that if the House votes against authorizing its experiments in peacebuilding today, it will undercut ongoing negotiations and perhaps even lead to more bloodshed. This is insulting. It is the Administration's refusal to consult with Congress and its inability to form a strong policy against Serbian aggression that has led to the debate today. The Administration has rejected all attempts by Congress to assert its Constitutional role on every occasion it has put our forces in harm's way without a clear explanation of its mission or on what our forces were supposed to accomplish. The current objections by the White House are more of the same rhetoric from an Executive Branch derisive of consultation with Congress.

The conflict in Kosovo is taking place within a sovereign nation. Intervention in Kosovo, even following an agreement forced upon both sides, is the intervention in a civil war to medi-

ate between two sides which we are trying to force into an agreement that will require our forces to uphold.

By what criteria would the President judge success in this mission whereby American troops could be recalled from Kosovo? The President repeatedly broke promises regarding the length of service in Bosnia before admitting that our troops will be there indefinitely. Once a peacekeeping force enters Kosovo to uphold a forced agreement, that force will serve indefinitely unless Congress acts to responsibly to restrict yet another open-ended commitment to achieve nebulous goals.

While the House debates the commitment of forces to Kosovo, we are also wrestling with the question of funding our armed forces, forces stretched thin by multiple commitments around the world. We are debating how to protect our nation from missile attack, perhaps from missiles improved with stolen American technology. How, then, will another open-ended commitment of American forces help American security. I have heard the arguments on why American forces must be present to make a peacekeeping force work, and while these arguments have merit, they also point out the failure of Europe to deal with issues in its own backyard.

Under the agreement being negotiated now, the peacekeeping force would attack Serbia if its forces or sympathizers violate the agreement, but what would happen if elements of the Kosovo Liberation Army violates the agreement? How would the United States with NATO punish Kosovar violations?

The United States presumably has a responsibility to end the bloodshed in Kosovo because it is the only nation left with the resources to do so. So why, then, is the Administration not seeking to put peacekeepers on the ground in Turkey, where thousands of innocent Kurds have been killed in Turkey's attempt to destroy the terrorists of the PKK? Why have American peacekeepers not been dispatched to Sierra Leone, where the killing continues? Why were international peacekeepers not part of the Irish or Basque peace agreement? What makes Kosovo different?

Let us keep American Troops out of Kosovo. If lives are to be in harm's way, let the European members of NATO handle regional conflicts in their own backyard.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
IN HONOR OF THE 35TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE BARTON  
SENIOR CENTER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 1999*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Barton Senior Center for its 35-year

record of enriching the quality of life for seniors in Lakewood, Ohio.

The Barton Center has been the inspiration for countless noteworthy projects and activities designed to benefit the Lakewood community. This non-profit, self-supporting organization offers a variety of social, educational, recreational and health related activities, classes, programs and services to the seniors of Lakewood. It is truly a multi-purpose senior center.

The inspiration for the Barton Center happened in 1963 when the first residents of the newly built Westerly senior apartment building realized their need for a common social area. With help from government loans, foundation gifts and individual donations, a full service senior center was built, complete with a spacious lounge and dining room, a fully equipped kitchen, a room for arts and crafts, a library, a pool and game room, a workshop and hobby room, and office space. A full-time director and activities coordinator was also hired.

Since its beginning, the Barton Center has continued to grow and expand. The center publishes a regular newsletter that has a circulation of over 1,500 people. Current programs and services such as the Driver Evaluation Program, Home Town Band Concerts, the Holiday Fair, the Dinner Theater, health and exercise programs and neighborhood transportation service are also immensely popular with the hundreds of members of the center.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 35th anniversary of the Barton Senior Center.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
WOMEN OF COLOR DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 1999*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Harriet Tubman and her lifelong dedication to social justice. We remember Harriet Tubman for her role in winning freedom for African-Americans. We remember her work on behalf of the Underground Railroad. We remember her courage in risking her life and freedom to help others to escape the tyranny of enslavement.

Harriet Tubman was born a slave in the early 1820s in Bucktown, Maryland, near Cambridge. At birth, she was named Araminta, but later adopted her mother's first name. In 1884, she married John Tubman, a freed slave. Starting life on a plantation, she grew up doing hard labor in the fields and suffering repeated beatings. Once, at age 13, an overseer struck her with a heavy weight and, for the rest of her life, she struggled with the serious effects of a fractured skull.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.